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Excerpts from Nova Scotia Occupational Safety General Regulations related to Respiratory Hazard, Toilets and Hand-Cleaning Facilities

The following are excerpts from the Nova Scotia Occupational Safety General Regulations (made under Section 82 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act) related to respiratory hazard, toilets and hand-cleaning facilities (see <https://novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/ohgensf.htm> for the complete document).

Respiratory hazard

13 (1) Where a person is exposed to a respiratory hazard that may cause injury or disease, an employer shall provide and ensure the use of an adequate respirator that is appropriate to the hazard.

Subsection 13(1) amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.

(2) An employer shall ensure that the compressed breathing air used in a respirator complies with or exceeds the latest version of CSA standard CAN3-Z180.1, "Compressed Breathing Air and Systems".

Subsection 13(2) amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.

(3) An employer shall ensure compliance with the latest version of CSA standard CSA Z94.4, "Selection, Use, and Care of Respirators", in respect of

(a) the selection, use, maintenance and testing of a respirator; and

(b) the training of users of a respirator

Subsection 13(3) added: O.I.C. 2000-130, N.S. Reg. 52/2000; amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.

Subsection 13(4) added: O.I.C. 2000-130, N.S. Reg. 52/2000; repealed: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.

Toilets

19 (1) An employer shall make accessible a minimum number of toilets for each gender, determined according to the maximum number of persons of each gender who are normally employed at any one time at the same workplace, as follows:

(a) where the number of persons does not exceed 9, 1 toilet;

(b) where the number of persons exceeds 9 but does not exceed 24, 2 toilets;

(c) where the number of persons exceeds 24 but does not exceed 49, 3 toilets;





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- (d) where the number of persons exceeds 49 but does not exceed 74, 4 toilets;
- (e) where the number of persons exceeds 74 but does not exceed 100, 5 toilets; and
- (f) where the number of persons exceeds 100, 5 toilets and 1 toilet for every 30 such persons in excess of 100.

Subsection 19(1) amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.

- (2) Despite subsection (1), where a workplace, such as a motor vehicle or an isolated small temporary workplace such as a logging operation or a survey site, does not have running water or sewage facilities, an employer shall ensure that the toilets required in subsection (1) are accessible where it is reasonably practicable.
- (3) Despite subsection (1), where the total number of persons normally employed in the workplace at any one time does not exceed 9, an employer may provide 1 toilet for both male and female persons if the toilet is situated in a room with an entrance door that is fitted on the inside with a locking device.

Subsection 19(3) amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.

- (4) Despite subsection (1), where more than 2 toilets are required for male employees, an employer may substitute urinals for up to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the required number of toilets.
- (5) An employer shall ensure that toilets are of the water flush, chemical, self-contained portable or other similar types of toilets.
- (6) An employer shall ensure that a toilet facility required by these regulations is
 - (a) within easy access of a person's workplace;
 - (b) enclosed so that a person is sheltered from view and protected from the natural elements;
 - (c) adequately ventilated and illuminated;
 - (d) heated, where reasonably practicable;
 - (e) kept in a clean and sanitary condition;
 - (f) provided with a sufficient supply of toilet paper;





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- (g) provided with a waste receptacle;
 - (h) maintained in working condition; and
 - (i) in the case of a self-contained unit, emptied and serviced at intervals to ensure that the unit does not overflow.
- (7) An employer shall ensure that an employee has reasonable opportunities to use the toilet facilities.

Hand-cleaning facilities

- 20 (1) Where the workplace has running water, an employer shall provide a wash basin or equivalent hand-cleaning facility in a room with 1 toilet and sufficient additional wash basins or equivalent hand-cleaning facilities in the room for additional toilets or urinals.
- (2) Where the workplace does not have running water and toilet facilities are provided, an employer shall provide hand-cleaning facilities or supplies.
Subsection 20(2) amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.
- (3) An employer shall provide a hand-cleaning facility and supplies as close to any toilet as is reasonably practicable.
Subsection 20(3) amended: O.I.C. 2013-65, N.S. Reg. 53/2013.
- (4) Where a person works in an area that is exposed to a hazardous substance that may contaminate food, an employer shall provide the person with the opportunity, facilities and supplies for hand cleaning.
- (5) Where a wash basin is provided, an employer shall provide
- (a) hot and cold running water;
 - (b) soap or other appropriate cleansers; and
 - (c) sufficient sanitary hand-drying facilities.

